

The Ontario Argus.

XXII

ONTARIO, MALHEUR COUNTY, OREGON, THURSDAY JUNE 13, 1918

NO. 23

BOARD EMPOWERED TO SECURE ENGINEER

DIRECTORS OF WARMSPRINGS
IRRIGATION DISTRICT TAKE
ANOTHER FORWARD STEP

MANY DETAILS TO BE DECIDED

Effort Will Be Made to Secure the
Services of A. J. Wiley of Boise—
Plans Must Be Submitted to Two
Commissions.

Efforts will be made by the board of directors of the Warm Springs Irrigation District to secure the services of A. J. Wiley of Boise as chief engineer of the project. This is the first step that can be taken for complete plans and specifications must be submitted to the State Irrigation Commission and to the War Issues Commission in Washington before the bonds can be sold.

Pending the arrival of Mr. Wiley no further steps will be taken, save perhaps further subscription to the bond issue.

At Vale Tuesday afternoon the board discussed in detail the status of the district but aside from determining upon the employment of Mr. Wiley, if he can be secured, found that no further work could be contemplated.

All of the directors were present at the meeting and also a number of interested citizens of Vale and Ontario. The people of Vale feel certain that something will be done on the project soon and that the dam will be built to store water during the 1919 season.

LAXSON TO DIRECT WAR STAMP SALES

Firemen Preparing for Energetic
Campaign—Proclamation to Be
Issued Soon—County Must
Pledge \$200,000.

W. H. Laxson has been selected to head the War Savings Stamp campaign which is to be conducted in Ontario June 28. The men associated with him are all from the fire department and they are all ready for the call. As yet their plans are incomplete, awaiting advice and material from the state headquarters, but they will be on the job June 28.

The following official statement of the drive outlining what Malheur county must do was issued this week by W. F. Homan, county chairman:

"President Wilson will soon publish a proclamation addressed to every school clerk in the United States, requesting them to arrange for a public meeting at their school house, to be held at 8 p. m. on June 28th.

"This move is backed by the president and every other government official, both great and small, in the whole country, and the W. S. S. organization in Oregon is especially active in the promotion of the work of organizing for the great work to be done.

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OCTOGENARIAN DIES AFTER ILLNESS OF MANY MONTHS

Olaf Nelson, aged 82, died at his home here Wednesday as the result of a paralytic stroke, from which he had suffered for several months. He leaves a wife, three sons and a daughter to mourn his death, of whom one son and a daughter live in California and were unable to be present at the funeral. The sons are Fred and Lawrence Nelson of Ontario, and Robert, who is with the marines at Mare Island, California.

Mr. Nelson was born in Sweden in 1836 and was 82 years old at the time of his death. He has been afflicted with paralysis for several months prior to his death. The funeral was held this afternoon from the undertaking parlors, Rev. Earl Hanna officiating. Interment was made in the Ontario cemetery.

REAR ADMIRAL RODMAN



Rear Admiral Hugh Rodman, who is in command of the United States battleships now in foreign waters.

CITY HAS FINE VIEW OF TOTAL ECLIPSE

Many From Neighboring Towns Come
Here to Witness Spectacle—
Clouds Lift at Period of
Totality.

Ontario took Saturday afternoon off to view the total eclipse. It will not have to do this again for 250 years so everyone got out and enjoyed the spectacle.

Beside the Ontarians there were many here from Nyssa and points south and west not in the path of totality. The setting was perfect and while no telescopes were set up here the boys with smoked glasses served the people.

As the eclipse came on gradually and occupied a large part of the afternoon the temperature dropped and a weird twilight spread over the city. Many citizens reported chickens going to roost, while others declared their chickens stayed up. However, the roosters crowed and the pigeons took to the barn tops and chattered away at the strange darkness.

The corona while it lasted but a moment was all that the astronomers said it would be, a marvelously beautiful sight, and with it came the twinkling of a star, so that Ontarians have the pleasure of declaring they have seen stars shine by day.

CREAM, EGGS, POULTRY INCREASING WEALTH

Ranchers in Ontario Territory Reaping
Reward of Diversified Farming—Income Is Increasing.

That it pays ranchers in this section to raise poultry and have cream for sale is being demonstrated this summer. Manager Andrew Robinson of the Ontario Ice & Cold Storage reports this week that the average amount paid daily to ranchers in this section has grown to \$110.

In other words more than \$3000 is being made monthly by this one firm for the produce being raised about the city. What this means in keeping ready cash in the rancher's hands between hay crops can well be imagined and is a substantial aid in the prosperity of the community.

The W. C. T. U. meets next Tuesday afternoon with Mrs. C. R. Seguire and all members are urged to be present so that the housewives may be finished for the boys who are leaving soon in the draft and also for those promised to the ones who left a couple of weeks ago.

Miss Alice Hahn, who has been visiting her aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Pifer, and also at the C. E. Bingham home, left Monday for her home in Council, Idaho.

DECISION STILL TO BE MADE REGARDING HOLDING OF FAIR

BUSINESS MEN DETERMINED TO HAVE ANOTHER MEETING TOMORROW (FRIDAY) NIGHT WHEN WITH WOMEN PRESENT SITUATION CAN BE DISCUSSED.

Shall Ontario business men "lay off" on the Fair this year?

What do you think about it? Is it not true that the people in the country expect a Fair?

Could the Fair ever be revived if "hung up to dry" for a year?

Are not the people of the County entitled to some entertainment this fall after harvesting a big crop?

Will it be possible to secure the necessary exhibits?

And lastly are there enough patriotic Ontarians, men and women, who are under the direction of the board who can be secured to handle the Fair?

Bundle all these questions any way you want to, make the first last or the last first, or chuck each into the middle and you have a symposium of the meeting of the Fair Board Tuesday night, at which only fifteen business men were present.

However, judging by the expressions voiced by the men there, the majority was in favor of holding a fair. All admitted that it will be a hard job, that labor will be scarce; that the directors and every man in town is busy and is going to stay busy, but is willing to get in and help put the Fair over. But it was felt that there was not a sufficient number of men out to decide so important a question for the entire community. Also in view of the fact that to a large degree the success of the Fair has been due to the work of the women of the city that it should not be abandoned without first consulting them.

Therefore it was determined to have another meeting tomorrow (Friday) evening, when it is hoped more men of the city will be present and with them many women for a full and complete discussion of the question.

This is an invitation to you, Mr. or Madame Reader, to be at that meeting.

ONTARIANS FINICKY SAYS RURAL SPIRIT

Citizens Thus Characterized Because
They Will Not Buy
Tubercular Sattle

The Rural Spirit, an agricultural paper published in Portland in its issue of June 5th, referred to Ontarians as finicky meat consumers.

The cause of this remark was a letter which P. Tensen, who lives southwest of the city wrote to State Veterinarian Dr. W. H. Lytle seeking relief from the problem of disposing of all cows that had reacted to a tuberculin test.

The Argus made a partial investigation which it believes the people of Ontario are entitled to know about. The facts are these:

Mr. Tensen's herd having been tested and 11 of the cows, all apparently in fine condition, reacted to the test and were therefore condemned, he tried to sell them to Andrew Robinson of the Independent Market, who declined to purchase them. They were then driven to Huntington and shipped to Portland where they were killed under U. S. inspection supervision.

The Rural Spirit objects that since Ontarians eat meat that is shipped in they probably eat meat that would react if given the chance. Local butchers however declare that they refuse to buy tubercular cattle and that the meat shipped in has been killed under inspection. Since enforced inspection would put small markets out of business the only protection the public has is for the men engaged in the business to follow the course they have taken, the Rural Spirit to the contrary, notwithstanding.

Mrs. Mary C. Arnold and Mrs. Hannah Witter of Boise, who have been the guests of their daughter and granddaughter, Mrs. A. E. Brown, return this evening to Boise after a month's visit in Ontario.

Mrs. Fred Rice returned home today after spending a week's visit with friends in Welser.

BOYER BROS. CO. BUYS WILSON BROS. STORE

War-time Conditions Reflected in
Consolidation of Two of
Ontario's Big Business Firms.

Monday of this week Boyer Bros. took possession of the Wilson Bros. store here, completing a deal, rumors of which circulated last week.

Transfer was made only of the stock of goods, the fixtures, good will, accounts, etc. were not purchased, and the usual agreement for the seller not to return to the community to open a similar business was absent.

All this is explained by the fact set forth by both Messrs. Wilson and Boyer that the sale was the result of war conditions and is a reflection on the condition now prevailing in the mercantile world. In fact it is Mr. Wilson's present intention to return to Ontario after the war to engage in business.

"The government has indicated that it is from the ranks of mercantile men that it expects to find many recruits for useful war industries," said Mr. Boyer, in discussing the deal. "Both Mr. Wilson and myself felt that the reduction of the number of firms here was a logical and a loyal object to attain. Then, too, with goods so hard to get the fewer firms entering the market and engaging in distribution at this time is fast becoming a necessity. For the present at least we will continue doing business at the Wilson store building but do not know how long we shall continue to do so."

Mr. Wilson's plans for the future are somewhat uncertain. After eight years of business "life here" he feels the need of a vacation and with his wife and son will leave by Friday for an extended trip thru the Middle West and South. They will visit Mrs. Wilson's home at Annandale, Minn., after viewing the Yellowstone, Montana, North Dakota and Northern Minnesota. From there they will drive to Mr. Wilson's home in Kentucky and expect to return to the Snake river valley about September 1.

CAPTAIN VON RINTELEN



Captain von Rintelen, German spy, reputed relative of the Kaiser, whose release was refused by the United States.

MRS. W. W. LETSON HONORED BY O. E. S.

Ontario Matron Starts Enroute To-
ward Position of Grand Worthy
Matron of Oregon Grand
Chapter.

Word was received Wednesday by Hugh Allen, patron of Star Chapter, O. E. S., from Miss Margaret Dunbar, now Worthy Matron of the Chapter, that in Portland that day, Mrs. W. W. Letson had been elected by a large majority to the position of Grand Associate Conductress.

This is the position contested for every year, for the woman thus selected starts on the road toward the honor of Grand Worthy Matron. It will be four years before that position is reached, according to custom, and then Ontario will have for the first time the honor of having the supreme state head of one of the largest fraternal orders in the state.

FIRE CHIEF TO WAGE WAR ON ALLEY TRASH

Property Owners Being Informed
That Clean-Up Is Necessary to Re-
duce Fire Hazard—Watching
Water Supply, Too.

Fire Chief Louis Kroessin, Jr., is going to make Ontarians clean up their alleys. This is not a health protection campaign, tho it will help that, too, but has for its purpose the reduction of fire hazards.

During the past few days property owners and tenants along Oregon street have been told to "clean-up." If they do not comply with the request they will find trouble ahead for the fire chief has a duty to perform for the protection of the city.

When the new system of water works is installed the hydrants will all be at the alley intersections with the streets so that to fight fires the firemen can not do their work over trash heaps and boxes to advantage. It should be a matter of self-protection, therefore, that property owners comply with the regulations, declares Mr. Kroessin.

That is not all tho the department is doing either. When the electric power went off Wednesday night there was just two-thirds of a tank of water in reserve, hardly enough to protect the city in case of fire. The Fire Chief, therefore, cut off the distribution to homes at once so that the water available was saved for an emergency.

Mrs. Chas. Blom, Misses Lucile Biggs, Mamie and Myrtle Stewart returned Friday evening from attending the Baptist convention in Coquille, Oregon.

LULAH HATFIELD IS LOST IN MOUNTAINS

POSSE SEARCHING FOR DAUGHTER OF ONTARIO MAN—MOTHER, WHO OVERCOME WITH GRIEF, EXPECTS RECOVERY.

DID NOT WAIT FOR COMPANION

Woman Rode All Night Alone Searching for Lost Child Before Seeking Aid—Both Strangers in Owyhee Region.

Lulah, the 12-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. I. Hatfield, is lost in the Owyhee hills, 12 miles south of Nyssa. A posse which has searched the hills all day, has as yet, found no trace of the missing child. With the posse is the anxious father, who was notified of his daughter's absence this morning when he went to work at the Cox-Hunt garage. He left at once for the Owyhee to join relatives and friends in their frantic effort to get a clue to solve the mysterious disappearance of the child.

While the posse is hunting today, Miss Alice Curtis, a school teacher of that section, at whose ranch the child was visiting, is recovering from the effects of an awful night she spent alone riding over the hills trying to locate her little companion.

The little girl's mother, too, is bravely assisting in every way she can, first by holding back her grief and cheering the searchers with expressed hopes of their success, for a phone message from that section today declared that everyone is looking out for the girl.

According to advice from there Miss Curtis started from her ranch yesterday afternoon to go to the Adrian postoffice, and with her went the little girl. Both were on horseback. After they had ridden within a few miles of Adrian the little girl became tired and said she would ride slowly and await Miss Curtis' return at a neighbor's a little further on.

With that agreement Miss Curtis rode to Adrian and on her return failed to find her little companion. All night she searched alone in the hills and early this morning sought help.

No theories are advanced concerning the cause of the little girl's disappearance. But fears are held that she might be back in the hills and be in danger of suffering from thirst. Others believe that it is barely possible that the horse and rider might have stumbled into the river, but this is hardly creditable. The general belief is that since she was a stranger to the country she rode off on one of the many trails thru the hills and that she will be located soon.

GIRL REPORTED FOUND.
As The Argus goes to press reports are received that the little girl, late this evening, reached the Curtis homestead.

WATER PIPE BEING LAID ON EAST SIDE OF CITY NOW

C. H. Helmer has crews at work laying water pipe on the East side of the city this week. Work will be started on the West side soon for another carload of fittings is expected daily from the South.

Mr. Helmer declares that the ditches will all be dug within 30 days and that if the material reaches the city the system will be completed so far as he is concerned, before August 1st.

As yet no appeal has been made by the California Jewel Filter company, which has the contract for the filter and the pumps. If their terms of the work was in it would be necessary for Ontario to have the filter system attached to the present water system in a few days.

Special reports have been received from their nephew, John T. Yantis, who left a couple of weeks ago in the draft, by Col. and Mrs. S. P. Taylor. The young man is stationed at Fort McDowell, Calif., and he writes that he likes it fine there.

Miss Agnes Nally of Harper is visiting with friends here this week.